

# Aldryngton Primary School

Silverdale Road,  
Earley,  
Reading,  
RG6 7HR  
Telephone (0118) 926 5843  
E-mail [admin@aldryngton.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@aldryngton.wokingham.sch.uk)



Headteacher: Mark Wieder

1<sup>st</sup> October

Dear Parent/ Carer,

Last week we held our first governing body meeting of the year. Our Chair of Governors for many years, Ian Head, stood down as Chair. Ian will remain a governor at the school and I would like to thank Ian on behalf of the school community for all of his hard work and commitment that he put into the role of Chair of Governors. Dr Stephen Lea, an experienced governor, will be the new Chair of Governors.

Also at the meeting, our new policies for both safeguarding and attendance were ratified by governors. Both of these policies have been updated in light of national guidance changes and are available on the policies page of the website. I will provide some key details contained within the updated attendance policy in the update below.

## Attendance Update

Our current attendance is for statutory school age children is currently 95.9%. I am pleased to report that this is an improvement on last year, but remains below our target of 97% for attendance.

Well done to all of the children in Lower School, with Year 1 averaging 97% and Year 2 averaging 97.7% so far this academic year. A special mention to Year 4 that are also above our 97% attendance target.

Currently, 12.6% of children have an attendance level below 90%. This figure is classified as persistently absent by the government. At this point of the year, one day of absence carries a greater percentage point, then it would later in the year. We have a review schedule of every six weeks. After six weeks, we will review the attendance figures and send a letter to families where attendance levels are of concern. You are able to view your child's attendance levels in the Arbor app. Please see details below as to how we describe levels of attendance at Aldryngton:

Attendance	Description	Approx. days lost per year	Approx. weeks lost per year
99-100%	Excellent	0-4	Less than 1
97-98%	Good	5-9	1-2
96%	Satisfactory	10-13	2-3
90-95%	Unsatisfactory	14-18	3-4
Below 90%	Persistent Absence	More than 19	More than 4

## Why regular attendance matters

Consistent school attendance allows your child to:

- Fully engage in learning and make academic progress
- Develop critical social skills by interacting with their friends and teachers
- Grow in confidence in a supportive and nurturing school environment
- Build a sense of routine and responsibility, essential for future success



Artsmark  
Silver Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



In partnership with the  
Institute of Education  
University of  
Reading



## Attendance support

We understand that some pupils may face challenges that impact their attendance. Our school's attendance team is here to provide support and guidance to pupils and families in such situations. If you encounter any difficulties related to attendance, please do reach out to Mark Wieder, the Designated Lead for Attendance.

## Acceptable reasons for absence

We recognise that there are circumstances where a pupil's absence can't be avoided.

Acceptable reasons for being absent from school include:

**Illness:** when your child is unwell, either physically or mentally, and unable to attend school

**Medical appointments:** if your child has a medical appointment that cannot be scheduled outside school hours, please notify us in advance and provide relevant documentation (e.g. an appointment card). This can be done by submitting a leave of absence form.

**Religious observance:** we respect the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds of our pupils. If your child needs to be absent for religious observance, please submit a leave of absence request and I will review it

**Exceptional circumstances:** in exceptional situations, such as family emergencies or unforeseen events, please submit a leave of absence request.

## How to report unplanned absences

In the event of an unplanned absence, we ask that you follow these steps:

1. Contact the school: on the day of the absence, please email the school office before 9am to inform us about your child's absence.
2. Provide a reason for absence: please provide a brief explanation for the absence, such as the type of illness. Please be specific, rather than saying, illness. Whilst it is not general practice to request evidence of illness, we may do so if we have concerns around the levels of attendance or authenticity of the illness. In the event of the school not being satisfied with the evidence provided, the school reserves the right to unauthorise the absence. If the school decides to do this then we will inform the family.

## Term-time holidays

Term-time holidays are generally not permitted during the school year. Absences due to term-time holidays are disruptive to learning and lead to missed opportunities in the classroom. A leave of absence form should be submitted if you intend to take your child on a term-time holiday.

## Sanctions for unauthorised absence

The local authority may issue a fine (known as a fixed-penalty notice) for unauthorised absence. If issued with one, you'll need to pay this directly to the local authority - £80 within 21 days, or £160 within 28 days.

The decision whether to issue a fine will take into account whether the national threshold has been met - namely 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks - as well as other factors. Please note that the same system of fines now apply nationally.

## October Census Day: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October



Please could all families in Foundation and Lower School support the school by choosing a school dinner on this day. This day is used to generate the funding levels provided by the government to fund the school for Universal Infant Free School Meals. Therefore, the higher the take up on this particular day, then the more funding the school will receive. Thank you in advance for your support with this.

### **World Homeless Day: 10<sup>th</sup> October**

We will once again be running a non-uniform day to raise funds for local homeless charities on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October. A donation of a minimum of £1 can be made directly to one of the two charities below:

#### **New Beginnings**

<https://www.newbeginningsreading.org/donate>

#### **CIRDIC**

<https://www.cirdic.org.uk/donation.html>

### **Harvest Festival**

This is taking place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October and food is to be left in the hall. We will once again be donating the food to CIRDIC. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

### **Events List**

Please find a couple of updates highlighted in yellow below. This week the updates are mainly PTA based.

<b>Date (Time)</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October (assembly) and Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> (non-uniform)	World Homeless Day (assembly to raise awareness and non- uniform day to raise funds for local charities)
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> to Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	Middle School trips to Ure Museum
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Bags 4 Schools
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival Collection (please bring in cans and dry food for re-distribution)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Assembly
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Individual Photographs
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October (3:30pm)	Accelerated Reader Parent Presentation
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October (9:30am)	Prospective Parent Tour
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Diwali Fayre
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	Lower School Florence Nightingale Workshop
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October (3:30pm)	Read,Write, Inc Parent Presentation
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Middle School RE Inspired
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October (2:30pm)	Middle School Diwali Assembly
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October (6-8pm)	PTA Disco
Week beginning 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term



Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day (No pupils in school)
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	US Paleoquest
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	R.E. Inspired Lower School
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week (wear odd socks on the 11 <sup>th</sup> ). Assembly on Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> .
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Day
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Evidence Me Parent Workshop
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
Week beginning 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Road Safety Week
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November (9:30am)	Prospective Parent Tours
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	RE Inspired Upper School
Week beginning 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Evenings Week
<b>Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>PTA Wrap a Present</b>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December (2pm)	School Council
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December (9:30am)	Prospective Parent Tour
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	R.E. Inspired Middle School
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Christmas Fayre
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Loddon Valley Carol Concert (choir only)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December (9:15am and 2:30pm)	Lower School Christmas Assemblies
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	R.E. Inspired Foundation Stage
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December (2pm)	Carol Concert
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December (evening)	PTA Carol Concert
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December (3:30pm-4pm)	Topic Visits to Classes
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December (2pm)	Foundation Stage Christmas Performance
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December (2pm)	Foundation Stage Christmas Performance
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of Term  Progress reports to parents
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET Day



Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January (9:30am)	Prospective Parent Tour
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Spelling Bee word lists out
Week beginning 13 <sup>th</sup> January	Team Newsletters out alongside knowledge organisers
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January	PTA Non-Uniform Day: Dress a Decade
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Chinese New Year Assembly
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Lower School Trip to Brooklands Museum
Week beginning 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	NSPCC Number Day (dress as a number in return for £1 donation to NSPCC)
Week beginning 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Spelling Bee Finals
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Upper School trips to Kew Gardens
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	PTA Disco
Week beginning 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Week beginning 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Bike-ability week
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day (Children can come in dressed as a book character)
Week beginning 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Neuro-Diversity Celebration Week
Week beginning 17 <sup>th</sup> March	EYFS Parents' Evenings Week
Week beginning 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening Y1-6 Week
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Junior Music Festival
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Topic Celebrations
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Foundation Stage Easter Performance
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April (2:30pm)	Lower School Eid Assembly
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	PTA Cake Sale
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Last Day of Term  Progress reports to parents
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Children Return to School
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	R.E. Inspired Upper School



Week beginning 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Team newsletters out alongside knowledge organisers
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Week beginning 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Key Stage 2 SATS Week
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	R.E. Inspired Lower School
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May (6-8pm)	PTA Disco
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Middle School Maypole Dancing
Weeks beginning 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 at Little Canada
Week beginning 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Multiplication Championship
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Cultural Diversity Day
Week beginning 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	INSET Day
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> to Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Y4 Times Table Check Window
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics and Y2 Phonics Retakes Window
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June (4pm)	New EYFS Parent Meeting
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	KS2 Sports Day
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Try-a-Tri
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Lower School trip to Hawk Conservancy
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	R.E. Inspired Upper School
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June (PM)	60 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Prom and Picnic
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	EYFS trip to Wooley Firs
Week beginning 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Week
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June (AM)	Inter-House Cross Country- Middle School
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> June (1:30pm)	Upper School Swimming Gala
Tuesday 1st July	District Sports (To be confirmed)
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July (1:30pm)	Middle School Swimming Gala
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Upper School Cross Country
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July (2pm)	Foundation Stage and Lower School Sports Day
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	PTA Non-Uniform Make the Rules Day



Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Upper School Production to Foundation and Lower - dress rehearsal
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Morning
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July (2pm)	Upper School Production to Middle School - technical performance
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> July (7pm)	Upper School Production to Families
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July (7pm)	Upper School Production to Families
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> July (2pm)	Upper School Production to Foundation and Lower - dress rehearsal
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> July (3:30pm)	Topic Celebrations
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July (AM)	Y6 Leavers Assembly to Children
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July (PM)	Y6 Leavers Assembly to Parents
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last Day of Term

Yours Sincerely,



Mark Wieder  
Headteacher

